

OU# 07-046

Phoenix-Goodyear Airport Area/Western Avenue Plume Community Advisory Group Meeting

Thursday, September 14, 2006 at 6:30 p.m.

Goodyear City Hall, Room 117

190 N. Litchfield Road

Goodyear, Arizona

MINUTES

CAG members present: Diane Krone; David Day; Susan Kagan; Sheri Michele Lauritano; Bob Smith

Members absent: Thomas H. Jones, Jr.; and Dr. Fred Scott

ADEQ Staff in attendance: Brian Stonebrink, Project Manager; Joey Pace, Hydrologist; Tom Di Domizio, Hydrologist; and Linda Mariner, Community Involvement Coordinator

EPA Staff in attendance: Mary Aycock, Remedial Project Manager

Members of the public present:

Robert A. Mongrain, ARCADIS

Jim Creedon, Landry Creedon & Associates

Nancy Mangone, CGSUS

Jeff Littell, Brown and Caldwell

Laura Houston, Arizona Republic

David Iwanski, City of Goodyear

Kevin Murdock, CH2M Hill

Phillip Fargotstein, Fennemore Craig

Darryl Henning, The West Valley View

Barney Bigman

The following matters were presented at the meeting.

1. Call to Order / Introductions

Ms. Diane Krone, CAG Co-chair, welcomed everyone and facilitated the meeting. CAG members and all meeting attendees introduced themselves.

2. Western Avenue Draft Remedial Investigation Report – Joey Pace, ADEQ Hydrologist

Ms. Pace began her slide presentation with the background of the Western Avenue (WA) Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund (WQARF) Site. In November 1991, ADEQ conducted a preliminary assessment/site inspection (PASI) of the City of Goodyear Public Works (COGPW) facility. Two monitor wells were installed at the COGPW facility to investigate a potential petroleum release from two underground storage tanks. A third monitor well was installed in February 1993. During this time no dissolved chlorinated solvents were detected due to the high laboratory detection levels resulting from the petroleum concentrations in the samples.

In 1994 PCE was detected in three of the wells belonging to the Phoenix-Goodyear Airport (PGA)-South Superfund Site on the Lockheed Martin facility property. As a result of these detections, ADEQ conducted a soil gas investigation at the COGPW facility and also at the Western Dry Cleaners. The soil gas sampling did not detect any significant concentrations of PCE at either of these two facilities indicating that they were not the source of the PCE detected in groundwater.

In 1995, two monitor wells were installed to characterize the groundwater quality for the WA site. In October 2000, ADEQ installed five more monitor wells as part of an early response action (ERA) evaluation. In March 2001, ADEQ conducted a soil gas investigation at the former Aladdin Dry Cleaners property. Results of the soil gas survey were not indicative of a source at this facility either. In October 2002, an Industrial Survey Report was completed as part of the remedial investigation (RI) phase. The data obtained did not definitely identify any potential significant source locations.

At this time, there is an active remediation system at the PGA-South Site that is pumping and treating groundwater from the aquifer where PCE contamination has been identified at the WA Site. Groundwater transport processes from the WA Site indicate the PCE impacted groundwater has been transported to the PGA-South Site where the plume is being remediated. No contaminated groundwater is left to investigate as part of the Western Avenue site. Therefore, **ADEQ is currently considering no further action at this site.**

Ms. Kagan asked if ADEQ would continue monitoring the sampling wells at the site even though there was not going to be any further action on the cleanup. Mr. Di Domizio stated that he thought the sampling would continue for an indefinite time once or twice a year. Ms. Kagan stated that she hoped it would continue.

Ms. Lauritano asked if the contamination was something that could possibly increase again. Ms. Pace explained that without a source for the contamination, it would remain clean unless another release occurred somewhere. Mr. Di Domizio added that even if the site was taken off the WQARF registry, it could always be added again if contamination reappeared.

Mr. Smith asked how far down in the ground the [groundwater] samples were taken. Ms. Pace replied that they were taken from the upper aquifer at 55 to 65 feet below the surface. She further explained that according to ADEQ monitoring, the groundwater has only dropped an average of two feet total over the past six years.

3. PGA-North Site Update – Robert Mongrain, ARCADIS

Mr. Mongrain introduced himself and explained that ARCADIS is a contractor for Crane Co. The status of the investigation is relatively the same as it was the last meeting. There has been continued extraction and treatment of TCE and perchlorate contaminated groundwater from Subunit A & Subunit C aquifers. Monitoring indicates changes in the shape and size in the north and northeast portions of the plume. Otherwise, no increases in the contaminant concentrations were observed.

At the main treatment system between January and August 2006, 85 million gallons of water were extracted and treated. The Well 33A treatment system in the same timeframe has extracted and treated 66 million gallons of water.

The final work plan to abandon Well COG-02 was approved June 1, 2006. Mr. Mongrain shared their proposed schedule for work on the groundwater investigation. They have drilled seven of

the proposed 13 wells for this year. The Site Evaluation Report to determine if other potential sources of contamination are present was approved August 30, 2006. The work plan is due October 30, 2006.

Mr. Mongrain showed a slide outlining the results of the Soil Vapor Extraction system removal of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from January 2006 through June 2006. It showed that a total of 146 pounds of VOCs had been removed. ARCADIS added reflective insulation to above ground piping in the extraction system to minimize higher vapor temperatures and increase the life of the granulated activated carbon.

Ms. Aycock commented that EPA had conducted their initial walk-thru on the site that day as part of the site evaluation. Each building will get an individual work plan. The Five-Year Report for PGA-North will be ready by September 30, 2006 for public comment. A fact sheet will be issued regarding that report.

Ms. Krone asked if there were any spikes in the samples. Mr. Mongrain replied that there were no spikes. He said it was possible that the plume has moved further north because there has been increased pumping by the City of Avondale. Mr. Day asked how much change had occurred to the gradient as a result of the increase in pumping from Avondale. The answer was that there has been a change to the gradient in a north-eastern direction. The intent is to put some extraction wells in that area to try to hold the contamination back.

Mr. Smith asked for clarification of the term extraction and confirmed that it was a well that pumped out the contaminated groundwater to be treated. Mr. Day asked what the rough cost of the 33A agricultural well was and if it had been a successful well before it started having problems. Mr. Mongrain replied that it was retrofit in 1996 or 1997, and the exact cost is not known. But it has historically been a successful well. After evaluation, they found encrustation on openings on the well, and so they cleared them out. But after that, the pump went down. It probably went down because of the increased pumping from 500-900 gallons per minute (gpm). Currently, it is being pumped at 600 gpm and working good.

4. PGA-South Site Update – Brian Stonebrink, ADEQ Project Manager

Mr. Stonebrink outlined the progress made at the site during the past few months. During the week of August 14, 2006, ADEQ and EPA observed the trace metals sampling round in the field. EPA and ADEQ conducted inspections of the groundwater treatment facilities in August on the 1st and 25th. A leak occurred in the sulfuric acid tank of the treatment system on June 27th, but it was fully confined to the containment area underneath the tank. The acid tank was since drained and welded where the leak occurred.

The Subunit A system was taken offline on May 11, 2006 for the replacement of the pneumatic control level valve. A pinhole leak was discovered in the piping entering the compound during the restart of the system, and the piping was replaced. The leaks were reported to EPA, ADEQ, Airport Operations, the City of Goodyear, and the City of Phoenix. An evaluation was done on the back up production well GAC #4 after sampling results detected TCE.

Some good news is that the Southern Subunit C plume is diminishing and nearly below 5 µg/L for TCE. Currently, over 200 pounds of TCE have been removed from Subunit C to date and over 5,000 pounds of TCE have been removed from Subunit A. In the first half of 2006, 83 million gallons of water were treated at Subunit A. During that same timeframe, 135 million gallons of water were treated at Subunit C.

5. City of Goodyear Report – David Iwanski and Nancy Mangone

Mr. Iwanski explained that it is his division's priority to protect the City's drinking water supply. He agreed with the suggestion made by Rob Mongrain for the City and Crane Company to join together to approach ADWR for blanket permits for well installations. He mentioned that the right-of-way and access agreements have specific protocols in place between consultants, responsible parties, and the City. He also pointed out that the City was not notified of the acid spill that occurred on the PGA-South treatment plant, and he reminded those present that the City are first responders to these kinds of events in protecting the health and safety of their citizens and customers. Therefore, they need to be included on the notification list.

Mr. Iwanski reminded the CAG of Crane Company's direction in their consent decree with EPA to donate \$1 million for a Brownfields project within the City's boundaries. Nancy Mangone is the city's legal counsel for that project. Mr. Iwanski requested the CAG consider serving on a Brownfields Citizens Involvement Committee for the City of Goodyear's Brownfields Project. Then Mr. Iwanski turned the time over to Ms. Mangone for a presentation on the plans for utilizing that Brownfields' money.

Ms. Mangone explained that brownfields are pieces of real property that may be contaminated, and this makes them difficult to redevelop. Examples of these kinds of properties are old gas stations, former industrial facilities, former dry cleaners, or vacant lots. The Brownfields Program works in funding the cleanup of previously contaminated properties for a productive use. She reminded the CAG that the consent decree with EPA required Crane Company to pay \$1 million to a fund managed by EPA to pay for sites in Goodyear to be redeveloped. Twenty-five potential sites in Goodyear will be identified by an environmental consultant, and then further in-depth investigation will be done to narrow it down to four sites. The citizen involvement committee will be essential in helping to make the final choice of the three sites that will actually be remediated with the EPA fund. The timeframe for completion of the project is three years. Ms. Mangone also gave a prospective timeline for each phase of the project. The identification and inventory of the sites might take up to six months. The in-depth assessment should take another six months. That would mean that the clean-up and redevelopment should be started in about a year. The whole re-development process must be finished within the three year limit.

Ms. Krone asked if properties that were currently being used would be considered brownfields sites even if the contamination was not done in the past. The property owner would have to agree to change the use of the property and help with the cost. Mr. Smith asked if the money was strictly for the City of Goodyear. Ms. Mangone confirmed that the projects need to be located with the City of Goodyear. Ms. Kagan asked if the annex to the south of the City would be included in that jurisdiction. Ms. Mangone felt that any annexation would have to be finalized before the assessments need to be done. But there's nothing that keeps the City from having a future project considered for EPA grant funding. Ms. Kagan asked if the agreement was specific to the PGA/WA sites. Ms. Mangone stated that no Brownfields' money can be used within a Superfund site.

Mr. Day asked who would be doing the choosing of these 25 sites. Ms. Mangone explained that the City would make the final decision with input from the community involvement committee and the environmental professional consultant who has the technical expertise to identify contaminated properties. Mr. Iwanski said that the City will provide the baseline for the technical and legal aspects of this project, but the role of the community involvement committee will be to help identify and prioritize the potential sites. In addition, the community involvement committee would be asked to express their desires for the re-development and use of those sites.

Mr. Iwanski said that by the next CAG meeting, the environmental consultant should be on board and have started on picking possible projects.

Mr. Smith asked whether the North and South boundary of the Superfund Site is defined by the location where the contamination started or by where the plume is. Ms. Mangone believed that a Superfund site boundary is defined not only by the actual source area, but can also be the broader study area where any of the contamination may come to be located. So it may be a moving target. If there is a property in that outlying area, and it seems like a perfect project, it might be one of the properties that the City could ask EPA to look at case by case to determine its eligibility for the City's Brownfields Project.

The CAG took an 8 minute break.

6. Acceptance and/or Changes to Minutes for 6/15/06 CAG Meeting

Ms. Krone asked if anyone had any changes to the minutes. The minutes stand as read.

7. 2006 WQARF Registry Report – Linda Mariner, Community Involvement Coordinator

Ms. Mariner explained that state law requires ADEQ to produce and publish an annual registry report of all the WQARF sites in Arizona and their status for public information. Currently, there are 35 WQARF sites in Arizona. Everyone was encouraged to take a report for future reference.

Mr. Smith asked why the PGA-North and South sites were not included in the report. Ms. Mariner explained that the Registry Report only included the State WQARF sites and not the federal Superfund sites.

Another CAG member asked if a lower or higher registry score was better. Mr. Di Domizio responded that the lower score was better.

8. Call to the Public

One member of the public asked if there was a projected timeframe by all the studies on how long it would take to get the groundwater at the site cleaned up. Speaking for PGA-South, Mr. Stonebrink suggested from five to ten years because there's already about 80% cleaned up. Mr. Mongrain agreed that PGA-North is in somewhat the same condition with an estimated ten years or more before the contamination is remediated. The public member also asked how the general public is assured that the contamination from the cleaning of the groundwater is not reinstituted into the air from the groundwater treatment system. Mr. Stonebrink explained that the Subunit A treatment system has an air stripper for TCE on it, and that an emissions control was included on that system until recently when it was determined that it was no longer needed. Samples are taken of both the air and the filtered water before the water is recharged into the ground.

Another question asked was if the huge growth in development in Goodyear has had an effect on the water table. Mr. Iwanski reported that the City is doing a comprehensive groundwater modeling of the city service area, and it will be completed by January 2007. This report will not only provide water quality information, but also the physical availability of water for the next 100 years, water transport information, and data to map major subsidence.

A member of the public asked if the sulfuric acid leak occurred on the airport property. Mr. Stonebrink replied that the leak was in the airport area south of the runway at the Subunit A

groundwater treatment system and was fully contained by the concrete containment pit beneath the tank.

A comment was made by a member of the public that the brownfields money was a good idea. He was also concerned about other areas of possible contamination in the Goodyear area where new development is occurring on former dairies and agricultural fields that could have pesticide or other contaminants. He suggested they be checked for possible brownfields eligibility.

Mr. Iwanski announced that Roseanne Sanchez is the Brownfields Manager for the City of Phoenix, and she has been a very big help in getting this Brownfields project started and is a good resource for that information. He also addressed the concern made about Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) by informing the group that the State has very aggressive program to monitor dairies and other such facilities.

9. Next Meeting Date and Agenda Discussion

It was mentioned that EPA will be back into town on February 8, 2007. The flow model for PGA-North will be completed by then and be ready to be presented to the CAG. The question was asked as to whether the Brownfields issue could be an additional charge for this committee or whether there would have to be a separate committee. Ms. Kagan made the motion to have the CAG consider joining the City of Goodyear Brownfields Project Public Committee in addition to advisory duties of the Superfund sites in the next CAG meeting on November 2, 2006. Ms. Lauritano seconded the motion, and it was approved by the CAG. The next meeting was scheduled as a workgroup to specifically discuss this issue on November 2, 2006.

Therefore, the agenda items will include a presentation from David Iwanski on the community involvement requirements for the City of Goodyear's Brownfields Project, a presentation from Viola Cooper on corresponding Community Advisory Group Guidelines for EPA, a presentation from Linda Mariner on any restrictions that WQARF guidelines have for Community Advisory Boards and the issue of combining committees. At this time, Mr. Day's letter of resignation was accepted by the CAG, so a CAG membership discussion will also be on the agenda to address the issue of finding more members for the CAG.

10. Adjournment

Ms. Kagan motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Ms. Lauritano seconded the motion. The CAG voted to adjourn at 8:40 p.m.